

REMARKS

The Applicants appreciate Examiner Nguyen's time in conducting a telephone interview on December 28, 2005. The Applicants discussed the classification of the present claims. However, no agreement was reached during the interview.

In response to the restriction requirement in the Official Action mailed December 7, 2005, claim 5 has been amended to depend from claim 1 and claims 6-8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 19 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Also, the claims have been amended to correct minor typographical informalities. Accordingly, claims 1-5, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 17 are pending, of which claim 1 is independent. The Applicants hereby elect with traverse Invention I. Claims 1-5, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 17 read on elected Invention I and are subject to examination at this time. Detailed reasons for the traversal are provided below.

The Official Action asserts that Invention I includes claims 1-4 and is "classified in class 361, subclass 737" (page 2, Paper No. 20051202). The Applicants respectfully disagree. The Manual of Classification defines class 361, subclass 737 as follows: "Subject matter wherein the printed circuit board supports an electrical network composed of two or more circuit elements inextricably bound on a single semiconductor substrate" (emphasis added). The Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-5, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 17 do not necessarily include two or more circuit elements inextricably bound on a single semiconductor substrate.

Also, the Official Action groups claims 5-18 into Invention II. It appears the Examiner may have overlooked the fact that not all of claims 6-18, as filed, depended from claim 5. Specifically, as originally filed, claim 1 was independent with dependent claims 2-4, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 17. As originally filed, claim 5 was independent with dependent claims 6-8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18. It appears that the Official Action may have intended to include claims 1-4, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 17, as originally filed, in Invention I and claims 5-8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18, as originally filed, in Invention II.

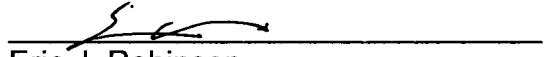
In any event, as noted above, claims 1-5, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 17 are pending, of which claim 1 is independent. Therefore, all claims are drawn to Invention I and should be subject to examination at this time.

For these reasons, the Applicants traverse the restriction. Also, the Applicants respectfully submit that the scope of protection afforded the claims should not be affected by the classification of the claims.

Examination on the merits is requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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